

HONORING MS. ANOLAN PONCE

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 25, 2013

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History Month I rise today to honor Ms. Anolan Ponce, an outstanding individual and someone who has been an inspiration in the South Florida community.

Ms. Ponce was born in Las Canas, Cuba and arrived in the United States in October of 1961. Her father, who had taken part in the Bay of Pigs invasion, had been imprisoned and insisted his family leave the country. The family settled in Miami and after graduating from high school, Anolan started working as a stenographer for Eastern Airlines. She eventually worked her way up to Senior Systems Engineer while obtaining her Bachelor's degree from Florida International University, and a Master's degree from the New York Institute of Technology.

Currently, Ms. Ponce is President and Owner of FAM and FAM-West Warehouse Corporations, companies which specialize in leasing their own commercial properties. In the past she also owned and managed Ponceana Travel, and ventured into construction by developing a warehouse complex in the Doral area. In the future, Ms. Ponce has plans for further commercial development of real estate in Miami-Dade County.

In addition to her professional work, Ms. Ponce is also an avid writer, and is currently finishing up her novel based on the true story of ten young men from her hometown in Cuba that were executed by the communist regime in 1961. She is also committed to democracy in Cuba through her work as a member of the Board of the U.S.-Cuba Democracy PAC. Annually she is responsible for organizing the PAC's seminal event, a concert in support of a Cuban Democracy. In addition to the PAC, Ms. Ponce is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of Mothers Against Repression for Cuba, and serves on the Advisory Committee of the Cuban Memorial.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Anolan Ponce for her continued service to the Miami community and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

TRIBUTE TO DAVE LILLARD
HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 25, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Des Moines Assistant Chief of Police Dave Lillard, and to express my appreciation for his commitment to the community in his years of service in law enforcement.

For the last 32 years, Mr. Lillard has served Des Moines honorably as a member of the Des Moines Police Department. Dave truly has been a versatile asset to the force, taking on roles in patrol, narcotics, tactical, gang and traffic units, in addition to internal affairs and the police academy. Since 2009, Dave has been the Assistant Chief of Police, and he was honored recently by Police Chief Judy Bradshaw with an Exemplary Service Award for his lifetime of achievement and invaluable contributions to the force.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Lillard has never wavered in his commitment to justice and security. Dave is a testament to the high quality of character instilled in Iowans, and the city of Des Moines owes him a great debt of gratitude for his service. While Mr. Lillard's leadership will be missed, he leaves behind a more secure community and a better trained and equipped police force that will continue to benefit from his service for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to represent Dave Lillard and all the people of Des Moines in the United States Congress. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in thanking Mr. Lillard for his years of service and wishing him a long, happy and healthy retirement.

HONORING MS. MARY BARLEY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 25, 2013

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History Month I rise today to honor Ms. Mary Barley, an outstanding individual and someone who has continuously supported South Florida and the Everglades.

Ms. Barley relocated to Florida in 1971 from Wisconsin. Shortly after arriving in our state she became an advocate for the Everglades and Florida Bay. Along with her husband George, who passed away in 1996, Ms. Barley spearheaded campaigns to build awareness around the Everglades and headed initiatives aimed at amending Florida's constitution to include the protection of it.

Ms. Barley has served as Chairperson and/or Vice Chairman of the Everglades Foundation since her husband's untimely death in 1995, and currently sits on its Board. She also holds the position of President of the Everglades Trust, and serves on the National Parks Conservation Association's Board of Trustees. She is a Board member of the World Wildlife Fund Marine Leadership Committee, and its National Council; the National Coalition for Marine Conservation; the Atlantic Salmon Federation; and the Sierra Club Foundation.

With her instrumental support Florida passed the Restoring the Everglades, An American Legacy Act, a bill which authorized \$8 billion towards the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. Ms. Barley, has consistently been recognized for her achievements and has received awards such as Audubon of Florida's "Lifetime Achievement Award," as well as its "Champion of the Everglades Award." Other awards include the Everglades Coalition's "Steward of the Everglades" award, and she was named a 1999 "Hero for the Planet" by Time Magazine.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Mary Barley for her continued service to South Florida and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.